

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SCSE-00 SNM-02 MED-03 HEW-08 DEAE-00

PRS-01 PA-03 USIA-15 SS-15 NSC-10 JUSE-00 TRSE-00

SCA-01 L-03 RSR-01 RSC-01 /089 W

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R 151930Z AUG 73

FM AMCONSUL HAMILTON

TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC 1347

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, AMED, ETRN, BD

SUBJ: IMPORTATION OF METHADONE INTO BERMUDA

1. THE HEAD OF ST. BRENDAN'S HOSPITAL (DR. COMISH) WHICH HANDLES DRUGS AND MENTAL CASES INFORMED CG (AUGUST/14) THAT THERE HAVE BEEN 4 RECENT CASES OF THE IMPORTATION OF METHADONE INTO BERMUDA BY US TOURISTS. POSSESSORS FREELY ADMITTED HAVING THE DRUG STATING THEY WERE ON THE TREATMENT.
2. POLICE SEIZED DRUG AND DETAINED PERSONS. COMISH WAS ABLE TO GET PEOPLE RELEASED TO HIM BUT ONLY WITH GREAT DIFFICULTY. IN ADDITION TO HIS HOSPITAL ROLE HE IS ALSO ASSOCIATED WITH "THE GROUP" BERMUDA'S DRUG ABUSE PROGRAM. THE IMPORTATION OF METHADONE IS AGAINST BERMUDA'S DRUG ABUSE ACT AND OFFENDERS OF THE ACT

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FACE SEVERE FINES AND OR IMPRISONMENT.

3. COMISH REQUESTED CG NOTIFY APPROPRIATE US AUTHORITIES OF BERMUDA'S LAWS RE IMPORTATION OF METHADONE SO METHADONE USERS WILL EITHER NOT VISIT
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BERMUDA OR NOT IMPORT THE DRUG INTO THE ISLAND.

4. CG RECOGNIZES MANY OF TREATMENT PROGRAMS ARE CITY,
COUNTY AND STATE OPERATED AND DISSEMINATION OF
INFORMATION REGARDING BERMUDA'S LAWS MAY BE
DIFFICULT. HOWEVER WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S
ASSISTANCE AS COMISH BELIEVES FUTURE CASES MAY NOT BE
SO EASILY HANDLED AND IMPORTERS OF METADONE COULD
FACE DRASTIC PUNITIVE PROVISIONS OF BERMUDA'S
DRUG ABUSE LAW.

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